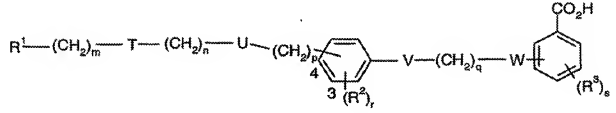
In the Claims:

The current status of all claims is listed below and supersedes all previous lists of claims.

Please cancel claims 1-3, 7, 8, 13, and 14 without prejudice to their presentation in another application, amend claims 6, 10, and 11, and add new claims 15-20 as follows:

1-5. (canceled).

6. (currently amended) A compound ~~according to claim 1 in which~~ of formula I



I

wherein:

R^1 represents aryl optionally substituted by a heterocyclic group or a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by aryl wherein each aryl or heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more of the following groups:

a C_{1-6}alkyl group;

a C_{1-6}acyl group;

arylC_{1-6}alkyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl group is optionally substituted by one or more R^b;

halogen;

-CN and NO_2;

$-NR^cCOOR^a$;

$-NR^cCOR^a$;

$-NR^cR^a$;

$-NR^cSO_2R^d$;

$-NR^cCONR^kR^c$;

-$NR^cCSNR^aR^k$;

-OR^a;

-OSO_2R^d;

-SO_2R^d;

-SOR^d;

-SR^c;

-$SO_2NR^aR^f$;

-SO_2OR^a;

-$CONR^cR^a$;

-$OCONR^fR^a$;

wherein R^a represents H, a C_{1-6}alkyl group, aryl or arylC_{1-6}alky group wherein the alkyl, aryl or arylC_{1-6}alkyl group is optionally substituted one or more times by R^b, wherein R^b represents C_{1-6}alky1, aryl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, cyano, -NR^cR^d, =O, halo, -OH, -SH, -OC_{1-4}alkyl, -Oaryl, -OC_{1-4}alkylaryl, -COR^c, -SR^d, -SOR^d, or -SO_2R^d, wherein R^c represents H, C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl and R^d represents C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl;

wherein R^f represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}acyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl and R^a is as defined above; and

R^k represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-4}alky1;

the group -$(CH_2)_m$-T-$(CH_2)_n$-U-$(CH_2)_p$- is attached at either the 3 or 4 position in the phenyl ring as indicated by the numbers in formula I and represents a group selected from one or more of the following: $O(CH_2)_2$, $O(CH_2)_3$, $NC(O)NR^4(CH_2)_2$, $CH_2S(O_2)NR^5(CH_2)_2$, $CH_2N(R^6)C(O)CH_2$, $(CH_2)_2N(R^6)C(O)(CH_2)_2$, $C(O)NR^7CH_2$, $C(O)NR^7(CH_2)_2$, and $CH_2N(R^6)C(O)CH_2O$;

V represents O;

q represents 1;

W represents a single bond;

R^2 represents halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}acyl group, aryl, an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group, CN or NO_2;

r represents 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^3 represents represents halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}acyl group, aryl, an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group, or CN;

s represents 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} independently represent H, a C_{1-10}alkyl group, aryl or an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group or when m is 0 and T represents a group $N(R^6)C(O)$ or a group $(R^5)NS(O_2)$ then R^1 and R^6 or R^1 and R^5 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent a heteroaryl group;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

with the proviso that:

1) when R^1 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or two groups independently selected from halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a is C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro;

m is 1;

T is $N(R^6)C(O)$ wherein R^6 represents a C_{2-8}alkyl group which is optionally interrupted by oxygen;

n is 1;

U is absent or represents methylene;

p is 0;

r is 0;

V is O;

q is 1; and

W is a single bond attached to the position ortho to the carboxylic acid group;

then s does not represent 0;

wherein the group $-V-(CH_2)_q-W-$ is joined at the ortho position with respect to the carboxylic acid group.

7-8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented) A compound selected from one or more of the following:

2-{[4-(2-oxo-2-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino)ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(3-{2-[benzyl(hexyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[3-(2-oxo-2-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino}ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[[2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethyl](methyl)amino]-3-oxopropyl}phenoxy)-15 methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[({4-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,3-thiazol-5-yl}carbonyl)amino]-ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-({4-[2-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl]phenoxy}methyl)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[(2-methyl-5-phenyl-3-furoyl)amino]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[(benzylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[benzyl(hexyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-2-fluorophenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[benzyl(hexyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-2-methoxyphenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-({4-[3-(3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)-3-oxopropyl]phenoxy)methyl)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[4-(1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy]ethyl)-phenoxymethyl]benzoic acid;

2-[[4-{2-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(3-{2-[4-(benzyloxy)phenoxy]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[3-(2-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}ethy1)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-({3-[2-(4-hydroxyphenoxy)ethyl]phenoxy}methyl)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[4-(benzyloxy)phenoxy]propyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(3-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}propyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-({4-[3-(4-hydroxyphenoxy)propyl]phenoxy}methyl)benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(3-{[2-(2-ethoxyphenyl)ethyl]amino}-3-oxopropyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[ethyl(2-pyridin-2-ylethy1)amino]-3-oxopropyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(2-{heptyl[2-(2-methoxyphenyl)ethyl] amino}-2-oxoethyl)phenoxy]methyl} benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl](heptyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

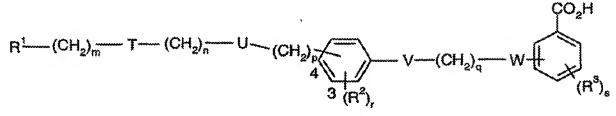
2-[(4-{2-[heptyl(2-phenylethyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid; and

2-[(4-{2-[ethyl(2-fluorobenzyl)amino]-2-oxoethoxy}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 6 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent, and/or carrier.

11. (currently amended) A method of treating insulin resistance comprising the administration of a compound ~~according to claim 1~~ to a mammal in need thereof, wherein the compound is of formula I



I

wherein:

R^1 represents aryl optionally substituted by a heterocyclic group or a heterocyclic group optionally substituted by aryl wherein each aryl or heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more of the following groups:

a C_{1-6}alkyl group;

a C_{1-6}acyl group;

arylC_{1-6}alkyl, wherein the alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl group is optionally substituted by one or more R^b;

halogen;

-CN and NO_2;

$-NR^cCOOR^a$;

$-NR^cCOR^a$;

$-NR^cR^a$;

$-NR^cSO_2R^d$;

$-NR^cCONR^kR^c$;

-$NR^cCSNR^aR^k$;

-OR^a;

-OSO_2R^d;

-SO_2R^d;

-SOR^d;

-SR^c;

-$SO_2NR^aR^f$;

-SO_2OR^a;

-$CONR^cR^a$;

-$OCONR^fR^a$;

wherein R^a represents H, a C_{1-6}alkyl group, aryl or arylC_{1-6}alky group wherein the alkyl, aryl or arylC_{1-6}alkyl group is optionally substituted one or more times by R^b, wherein R^b represents C_{1-6}alky1, aryl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, cyano, -NR^cR^d, =O, halo, -OH, -SH, -OC_{1-4}alkyl, -Oaryl, -OC_{1-4}alkylaryl, -COR^c, -SR^d, -SOR^d, or -SO_2R^d, wherein R^c represents H, C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl and R^d represents C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl;

wherein R^f represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}acyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl and R^a is as defined above; and

R^k represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-4}alky1;

the group -$(CH_2)_m$-T-$(CH_2)_n$-U-$(CH_2)_p$- is attached at either the 3 or 4 position in the phenyl ring as indicated by the numbers in formula I and represents a group selected from one or more of the following: $O(CH_2)_2$, $O(CH_2)_3$, $NC(O)NR^4(CH_2)_2$, $CH_2S(O_2)NR^5(CH_2)_2$, $CH_2N(R^6)C(O)CH_2$, $(CH_2)_2N(R^6)C(O)(CH_2)_2$, $C(O)NR^7CH_2$, $C(O)NR^7(CH_2)_2$, and $CH_2N(R^6)C(O)CH_2O$;

V represents O;

q represents 1;

W represents a single bond;

R^7 represents halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}acyl group, aryl, an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group, CN or NO_2;

r represents 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^3 represents represents halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}acyl group, aryl, an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group, or CN;

s represents 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} independently represent H, a C_{1-10}alkyl group, aryl or an arylC_{1-4}alkyl group or when m is 0 and T represents a group $N(R^6)C(O)$ or a group $(R^5)NS(O_2)$ then R^1 and R^6 or R^1 and R^5 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent a heteroaryl group;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

with the proviso that:

1) when R^1 is phenyl optionally substituted by one or two groups independently selected from halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a is C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro;

m is 1;

T is $N(R^6)C(O)$ wherein R^6 represents a C_{2-8}alkyl group which is optionally interrupted by oxygen;

n is 1;

U is absent or represents methylene;

p is 0;

r is 0;

V is O;

q is 1; and

W is a single bond attached to the position ortho to the carboxylic acid group;

then s does not represent 0.

12-14. (canceled).

15. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the group $-V-(CH_2)_q-W-$ of the compound is joined at the ortho position with respect to the carboxylic acid group.

16. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the compound is chosen from:

2-{[4-(2-oxo-2-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino)ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(3-{2-[benzyl(hexy1)amino]-2-oxoethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[3-(2-oxo-2-{[4-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino}ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[[2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)ethyl](methyl)amino]-3-oxopropy1}phenoxy)-15 methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[({4-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,3-thiazol-5-yl}carbonyl)amino]-ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-({4-[2-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl]phenoxy}methy1)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[(2-methyl-5-phenyl-3-furoyl)amino]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[(benzylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[benzyl(hexyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-2-fluorophenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[benzyl(hexyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-2-methoxyphenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-({4-[3-(3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)-3-oxopropyl]phenoxy)methyl)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[4-(1H-imidazol-1-y1)phenoxy]ethyl)-phenoxymethyl]benzoic acid;

2-([4-{2-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}ethyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(3-{2-[4-(benzyloxy)phenoxy]ethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[3-(2-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}ethy1)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-({3-[2-(4-hydroxyphenoxy)ethyl]phenoxy}methyl)benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[4-(benzyloxy)phenoxy]propyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(3-{4-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]phenoxy}propyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-({4-[3-(4-hydroxyphenoxy)propyl]phenoxy}methyl)benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(3-{[2-(2-ethoxyphenyl)ethyl]amino}-3-oxopropyl)phenoxy]methyl}benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{3-[ethyl(2-pyridin-2-ylethy1)amino]-3-oxopropyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-{[4-(2-{heptyl[2-(2-methoxyphenyl)ethyl] amino}-2-oxoethyl)phenoxy]methyl} benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[[2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl](heptyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

2-[(4-{2-[heptyl(2-phenylethyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl}-phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid; and

2-[(4-{2-[ethyl(2-fluorobenzyl)amino]-2-oxoethoxy}phenoxy)methyl]benzoic acid;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein R^1 represents phenyl which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: halo, hydroxy, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, benzyloxy, a C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyloxy group, phenyl or a heteroaryl group, or R^1 represents heteroaryl which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more of the following: halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, a C_{1-4}alkoxy group which is optionally substituted by one or more fluoro.

18. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the group $-(CH_2)_m-T-(CH_2)_n-U-(CH_2)_p-$ is attached at the 4 position in the phenyl ring as indicated by the numbers in formula I, that is para to the group V.

19. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein R^2 is halo, a C_{1-4}alkyl group or a C_{1-4}alkoxy group and r is 0 or 1.

20. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein s is 0.